ASA-1068



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

K. HONDA et al

Serial No.

Filed: February 26, 2002 Group Art Unit: 2186

For: STORAGE SUBSYSTEM Examiner: H. Patel

UNDER § 1.97 AND § 1.98

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

SEP 0 1 2004

Sir:

Technology Center 2100

- 1. This IDS should be considered:
- (a) when filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or within three months of the filing date of the National Stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last;
- (b) when filed before the mailing date of either a Final Rejection under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first and when 1(a) does not apply. For this purpose, there is included herein either a certification in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box), or a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed, or if not see section 5 below);
- (c) when filed prior to the payment of the Issue Fee, when 1(a)-(b) do not apply, and when a certification is included in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box); then the Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) and request(s) consideration of this IDS, and provided herewith is a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of

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\$180.00 to cover the petition fee, or if not see section 5 below).

- 2. When 1(a)-(c) do not apply, then it is requested that this IDS be placed in the file.
- 3. Listing of the information submitted is on the attached Form PTO-1449, which forms a part of this IDS. A copy of each listed document is enclosed when needed (needed for U.S. and foreign patents, publication or portion thereof listed; no copy of a U.S. patent application is needed; a copy of a document is not needed when previously submitted or previously cited by the PTO in a parent application of the present application as set forth under 35 U.S.C. § 120).
- 4. The undersigned hereby states (when the box is checked):
- ☐ (a) that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, as indicated on the copy of the communication submitted herewith, which communication was dated more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed); or
- ☐ (b) that no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.
- 5. If a fee or additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or additional fee that may be required and credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.
- 6. No explanation of relevancy is being provided for the following document(s) because each is either in the English language, discussed in the present Specification, or its relevance is as stated in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

7. If the PTO determines that part(s) of the required content is inadvertently omitted, then it is requested that the Applicant(s) be given additional time and specific identification of such omission(s) to enable full compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Mattingly Registration No. 30,293

Attorney for Applicants

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR 1800 DiagonalRd., Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1120

Date: August 26, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as tirst class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner For Patents and Trademarks,

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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FORM PTO (REV. 7-80)	449	O O ZUILA	U.S. DEPAR	RTMENT OF COMMERCE	ASA-1068 10/082,303				
LIST OF DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)					APPLICANT K. HONDA et al FILING DATE	GROUF			
					February 26, 2002 2186				
				U.S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS				
* EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT	DATE		NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (If Appropriate)	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER